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Subject: FEC Comment
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FEC Comment Submission (johnedwards.com)

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Comment: I am writing to comment on Draft Advisory Opinion 2007-31. I urge the Commission to reject Draft AO 2007-31, and permit individual credit card contributions made online through ActBlue to be matched under the Matching Fund Act.

As a supporter of public financing, I believe the Commission should be removing obstacles for presidential candidates to participate in the matching funds system. The Commission should be embracing new technologies and grassroots financing of presidential campaigns. Draft AO 2007-31, on the other hand, would have the Commission erect new barriers to participation in matching funds.

I have personally made several small donations ($25 or less) to at least 4 different campaigns because of the convenience of using the ActBlue pages. I used the pages much as I would use PayPal to make a commercial transaction. I used the pages because they were an easy place to go and make a donation after I'd read or learned about a particular candidate using the information resources of the internet. I believe that ActBlue and sites like it are encouraging small donations from active citizens, and I believe the FEC should encourage this trend.

Thank you.